

**Sharon at College of Menominee Nation  
Health Profession Opportunity Grant (HPOG) Nursing Career Ladder Program**

Sharon wanted to go to nursing school. After some research she found that College of Menominee Nation was the place for her. A receptionist in the nursing department asked Sharon if she knew about the HPOG grants. She did not, but shortly after applying she was accepted into the grant. After a few visits to get started (assessments, intake, and development of a success plan), she was sure it was the place for her. She stated she was treated like a person and not a number.

“People understand my situation, and sometimes the understanding and listening makes all the difference for me. I live in Gillet, work in Green Bay, have children, and go to college. It is stressful. I am placed in experiences at the college with others in the same situation; they understand all the demands of me.... Some weight has been taken off me knowing that my tuition is paid, which will further progress my educational aspirations post-RN nursing. I can work as a nurse and adequately support my family while I slowly acquire my BSN. Currently, I am and have been a CNA for eight years now.”

HPOG has a program in place where students and applicants are evaluated for nursing readiness, and Sharon is almost ready to enter the nursing program. She has identified math proficiency as the number one goal and reading as a secondary goal as she works on getting herself academically ready. She has also received tuition and gas assistance. Sharon knows she has her HPOG support services coordinator to problem solve with her if she should ever have a barrier to attending school and performing well. She states she is more confident about her success now and is more likely to follow through with the program because some fears have been lifted.